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Officed RB 4/22/03

Docket No. 2629-4005US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Lörincz, et al.
Serial No.: 09/210,031 Group Art Unit: 1631
Filed: December 11, 1998 Examiner: Brusca, J.
For: UNIVERSAL COLLECTION MEDIUM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Claims 36-74 of this application were finally rejected in an Advisory Action dated July 11, 2002. A continued prosecution application was filed on January 24, 2003.

Prior to examining the above-identified application, entry and consideration of this Preliminary Amendment and the accompanying Declaration of Dr. Attila T. Lörincz under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132 ("the Lörincz Declaration") is respectfully requested. Applicants respectfully request consideration of the attached Lörincz Declaration which addresses the grounds of rejection set forth in the July 11, 2002 Advisory Action. This Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132 is submitted in order to expedite prosecution of the above-identified application and to eliminate issues from the present application.

REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Brusca for updating applicants on the current status of the instant application on March 24, 2003. As applicants indicated, a Declaration by Dr. Attila T. Lörincz has been prepared and is filed herewith. This Declaration addresses issues raised in the parent application.

Claims 1-35 are cancelled. Claims 36-74 are pending.

In the attached Declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.132, applicants show that Dunphy's Example 4 formulation is not capable of adequately preserving DNA and RNA for